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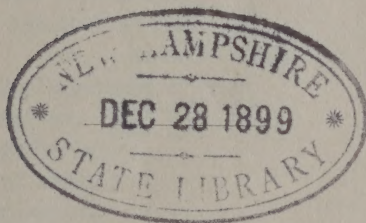
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REPORTS  
OF THE  
SELECTMEN, TREASURER,  
AND  
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER,  
FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1881.



BRISTOL, N. H.:  
ENTERPRISE OFFICE—R. W. MUSGROVE, PRINTER.  
1881.



## Report of Selectmen and Treasurer.

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*The Selectmen credit the Town for the year ending March 1, 1881, as follows:—*

By list of taxes assessed April 1st, 1880,	\$3,241.25
Dog tax,                   “                   “	36.00
School house tax in District No. 3,	205.35
Cash of former Treasurer,	445.91
Received taxes assessed in 1878,	12.00
“                   “                   1879,	365.00
County, for support of poor,	208.00
Railroad tax,	54.55
Savings Bank tax,	163.89
Literary Fund,	41.44
Luther Barrett,	6.06
Arthur F. Fletcher,	19.38
Charles H. Spiller,	6.00
Cash hired of Roxy Dolloff,	325.00
Stephen R. Glover, damage done by dog,	6.75
Interest on taxes,	11.44
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	\$5,148.02

**Disbursements of Treasurer.**

## Outstanding bills :

Paid Eldorus Smith, note in full,	\$71.85
Levi Dolloff,                   “	325.57
Ruth A. Batchelder,       “	543.75
David B. Clement, on note,	200.00
Charles M. Barnard,       “	300.00
Isaac C. Tilton,           “	200.00
Caleb Whittemore,       “	100.00
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	\$1,741.57

**Support of Schools.**

Paid District No. 1, G. R. Tobine, for 1879,	\$8.49
“       1, George D. Cross,	82.13
“       2, Mrs. Edward E. Ferrin,	32.70
“       3, R. J. Pillsbury,	64.57
“       5, J. E. S. Fifield,	52.53
“       7, John Smith,	71.09
“       8, Lorenzo Flanders,	107.70
“       9, Mrs. W. H. Abel,	32.25
“       10, Arthur W. Nichols,	14.62
Union No. 1, B. F. Nutting,	43.66
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	\$509.74

**Support of Poor.**

Paid for Hezekiah and Sally Heath,	\$156.00
Stephen S. Brown,	52.00
Mrs. Abraham Smith,	38.00
Dr. I. S. Chase for Mrs. A. Smith,	20.00
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	\$266.00

**Town Officers' Bills.**

Paid John L. Morrison, Town Clerk,	\$15.50
John L. Morrison, S. S. Committee,	21.00



Paid John L. Morrison, Supervisor,	\$4.50
David B. Clement,     "	7.00
Richard Brown,       "	7.00
L. C. Tilton, Collector,	30.00
R. B. Gilpatric, services as Moderator in '79 and '80,	3.00
Uriel Pike, Treasurer,	25.00
J. S. Morrison,   Selectman,	70.00
M. M. R. Mitchell,     "	34.00
G. B. Dolloff,         "	40.00
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	\$257.00

### Abatement of Taxes.

Taxes assessed in 1880,	\$9.42
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### Paid for Highways and Bridges.

Paid Hughes & Huckins, for spikes,	\$1.75
G. B. Dolloff, labor on turnpike,	7.00
A. B. Dalton,     "     union bridge,	3.00
M. M. R. Mitchel,"         "	3.00
Wm. B. Nichols,   "         "	1.25
Arthur W. Nichols,"         "	1.25
W. P. Parkes, plank for     "	27.00
Stephen R. Glover, breaking new road,	5.25
Stephen R. Glover, labor in District No. 15,	1.50
Uriel Pike, labor in District No. 20,	6.45
Nathan Chapman, labor and lumber,	1.35
Wm. P. Beede, for plank,	11.85
Edward E. Ferrin, for labor in Distict No. 3,	5.62
Wm. B. Nichols,     "         "	12.50
Arthur W. Nichols,   "         "	12.50
J. S. Morrison, labor and lumber in District No. 3,	6.63
Richard Brown, plank and labor on new road,	16.55
Stephen R. Glover, labor on new road in 1879,	6.00
David B. Clement, jr., breaking road in Dist. No. 15,	3.00
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	\$133.45

**Miscellaneous Items.**

Paid Charles Woodman, use of watering tub,	\$3.00
David B. Clement, services and expenses to Concord,	4.75
Bounty on hawks,	1.60
Printing tax bills,	1.25
Blank Record Book,	1.25
Dr. A. C. Whipple, recording births and deaths,	2.75
Schools Notices and Teachers' Certificates,	.90
R. W. Musgrove, printing town reports,	12.50
Postage, stationery, surveyors' warrants and collector's book,	5.92
Perambulating line between Bridgewater and Plymouth,	.75
Justice fees,	.50
Selectmen expenses,	11.00
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	\$46.17

**RECAPITULATION.**

Amount received, \$5,148.02

**Paid Out.**

Paid outstanding bills,	\$1,741.57
School house tax in district 3,	205.35
State tax,	312.00
County tax,	525.25
Support of schools,	509.74
Support of poor,	206.00
Town officers' bills,	257.00
Highways and bridges,	133.45
Miscellaneous,	46.17
Abatements,	9.42
Non-resident tax worked,	39.49
Due on Collector's books,	682.60
By cash on hand,	419.98
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	\$5,148.02



### Demands against the Town.

Surplus Revenue, two notes,	\$2,095.81
Eliza A. Johnson,    "	397.00
David B. Clement, two notes,	1,596.00
Lydia R. Clement,	156.70
David B. Clement, jr.,	276.58
Isaac C. Tilton,	1,234.08
Charles M. Barnard,	963.55
Melinda M. Barnard,	57.64
M. M. R. Mitchell, two notes,	321.56
Ruth A. Batchelder,	648.96
Caleb Whittemore,	480.70
Frank B. Tilton,	900.83
Alba O. Dolloff,	29.75
Mary J. Mitchell, two notes,	647.19
Alice B. Nichols, two notes,	53.87
George F. Fletcher,	125.64
Sherburn W. Tilton,	209.15
Jane L. Cass,	70.30
Otis F. Cross,	54.08
Clarissa Cross,	55.12
Nathan Chapman,	321.36
Lavina Brown,	320.32
J. M. V. B. Dalton,	105.38
Hattie N. M. Morrison,	132.16
Roxy Dolloff,	325.00
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	\$11,578.73

### Claims due the Town.

Due on Collector's book, 1873,	\$15.07
"        "        "    1874,	12.54
"        "        "    1875,	17.37
"        "        "    1876,	25.21
"        "        "    1877,	127.07
"        "        "    1878,	84.89
"        "        "    1879,	31.65



**REPORT**  
OF THE  
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
**TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER,**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1881.

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DISTRICT No. 1.

There were two terms of school, both under the instruction of Miss ADDIE C. WOODMAN, of this town,—one of our best teachers. She has had great experience and possesses qualifications which well fit her to instruct in the school-room. The first term of eight weeks began May 3. I visited it twice. It was a small, quiet school of only six scholars. The teacher seemed to mean business and the scholars became of the same mind, and the result was an excellent school with much improvement. Whole number studying reading, 6; spelling, 6; penmanship, 4; arithmetic, 4; geography, 2; history, 4. Upon the roll of honor are found the names of all the scholars: Clara B. Wiser, Edna F. Woodman, Clarence E. Brown, Elmer P. Wiser, Orra W. Wiser, Orrin W. Wiser. Number of visits by parents and others, 6.

The second term of nine weeks began October 26, with the same scholars, except two large ones, one of whom belonged in No. 3. This, like the other, was an excellent school; the scholars had advanced from books they studied the first term to higher ones. The closing examination, which was witnessed by some of the parents, did the teacher and scholars much credit. Whole number studying reading, 8; spelling, 8; Penmanship, 8; arithmetic, 7; geography, 4; grammar, 2; history, 2; composition, 2; algebra, 1. The same names are on the roll of honor as last term, with the addition of Austin W. Woodman,



a fact which speaks well for both teacher, scholars and parents. Number of visits by parents and others, 4. Wages of teacher per month, including board (both terms), \$20.00. Whole amount of school money, \$82.13. Contributed by district to prolong the school, \$5.00. George D. Cross, Prudential Committee.

#### DISTRICT No. 2.

One term of ten weeks, commencing Aug. 15, was taught by Miss LOTTIE E. HAZELTON, of Ashland. There is no school-house in this district and the school was kept at the residence of the Prudential Committee. There were but four scholars and one of these came from out of the district, entering about the middle of the term. I visited the school twice. At each visit it appeared nicely, and I think the teacher labored faithfully for the good of her pupils. The reading classes showed an improvement, and in arithmetic and geography there was good improvement, showing that they thoroughly understood what they had been over. Number of pupils studying reading, 4; spelling, 4; penmanship, 2; arithmetic, 3; geography, 2; grammar, 1. Upon the roll of honor is the name of Joseph H. Morrison. Number of visits by parents and others, 3. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$14.00. Whole amount of school money, \$32.70. Mrs. Rachel A. Ferrin, Prudential Committee.

#### DISTRICT No. 3.

This district has united with a part of No. 4 and built a nice, new, commodious school-house. It is furnished with the Elsy patent seats and does the district much credit. The school is under the instruction of Miss LAURA A. WHITEMORE, the teacher of No. 7. The school began Dec. 6; but, owing to some delay, the seats did not arrive until the seventh week of school, which was a source of much inconvenience. I was in this school three times and saw no reason why it should not have been a profitable one. At the close of the eighth week there were 14 scholars studying reading; 14 spelling; 14 penmanship; 10 arithmetic; 11 geography; 6 grammar; 3 history; 5 physiology; 1 composition. Upon the roll of honor are but two

names—Scott W. Fletcher, Sherman S. Fletcher. Wages of teacher per month—board given by district—\$14.00. Whole amount of school money, \$64.57. Randall J. Pillsbury, Prudential Committee.

#### DISTRICT No. 5.

One term of eleven week, taught by Miss LUELLA J. LOCKE, of Alexandria. Miss Locke came to this town with a record of five successive terms in one district in her own town, if I remember rightly. I do not hesitate in saying that Miss Locke is an excellent teacher. I visited the school twice; it appeared very well at my first visit, but when I visited it at the close, it surpassed my expectation. The examination, which was public and witnessed by nearly all the district, did great credit to both scholars and teacher. The progress was good and thorough. I think there was not a question asked but what there was a quick, prompt, correct answer given. There are a few excellent scholars in this district. This district has united with a part of No. 4, and another year is to have a new school-house, I understand. Whole number of scholars, 10. Whole number studying reading, 10; spelling, 10; penmanship, 10; arithmetic, 5; geography, 2; grammar, 3. Upon the roll of honor are the names of Rose E. Fifield, Addie G. Fifield, George C. Wheeler. Number of visits by parents and others, 16. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$20.00. Whole amount of school money, \$52.53. J. E. S. Fifield, Prudential Committee.

#### DISTRICT No. 7.

There were two terms of school in this district, both under the instruction of Miss LAURA A. WHITEMORE, a teacher of much experience, although this was her first term in her own town. I consider that Miss Whittemore will rank with our best teachers, governing easily and gaining the good will of her pupils. With such a teacher there can be but one result, and that a profitable school. The summer term of seven weeks began May 10. I visited the school twice; the order was good, although one or two of the larger scholars were not as quiet and studious as they might have been. Nearly all the classes showed

good improvement; one primer class in reading made remarkable improvement. Whole number of scholars, 14. Whole number studying reading, 14; spelling, 14; penmanship, 9; arithmetic, 10; geography, 9, history, 1. Upon the roll of honor are the names of Annie C. Brown, Sarah B. Mitchell, Herbert Moranville, Ernest Moranville, Melissa H. Sanborn, Flora D. Smith, Helen M. Smith, Ona A. Smith, Katie G. Smith, Ellen L. Tyrell. Number of visits by parents and others, 20. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$16.

The Fall term of eight weeks began October 4. I visited this term but once and that near the close. The examination was very good. There are some good scholars in this school; in reading, there are some that are very good. Whole number of scholars, 12. Whole number studying reading, 12; spelling, 12; penmanship, 8; arithmetic, 8; geography, 5; grammar, 2; history, 1. Upon the roll of honor are the names of Annie C. Brown, Walter D. Clement, Melissa H. Sanborn, Helen M. Smith, Katie G. Smith, Ellen L. Tyrell. Number of visits by parents and others, 8. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$19.00. Whole amount of school money, 71.09; money unexpended, \$5.09. John Smith, Prudential Committee.

#### DISTRICT No. 8.

Two terms of school (caused by a vacation), under the instruction of Miss KATE L. ROBIE, of Bristol, a teacher of great experience. I visited this school but once. I was notified by the teacher when it would close, and requested to be present the whole of the last day, but owing to bad traveling and the cold, I did not go. At my visit, near the beginning, I was very much pleased with the school. The teacher seemed energetic, wide awake and perfectly at home, and the scholars quiet and studious. I then prophesied a good school, and from all reports I have heard it was, as I have heard nothing but praise. The first term of six weeks began August 16. Whole number of scholars, 18. Studying reading, 18; spelling, 18; penmanship, 18; arithmetic, 16; geography, 11; grammar, 10; history, 4; Algebra, 2. Upon the roll of honor are Leonard D. Flanders, Emery M. Flanders, Elmer H. Hammond, Adna B. Hammond,



Sherman C. Rankins, Walter A. Sargent, Alfred H. Tilton, Edwin B. Whittemore, M. Etta Dolloff, Maud M. Dolloff, Mabel M. Dolloff, Agnes M. Dolloff, Alice M. Tilton, Della D. Tilton, Flora M. Sargent.

Second term of thirteen weeks, began October 11. Whole number of scholars, 23. Studying reading, 23; spelling, 23; penmanship, 23; arithmetic, 23; geography, 17; grammar, 17; history, 5; composition, 10; book-keeping, 1; algebra, 3. Upon the roll of honor are Abner F. Dolloff, Emery M. Flanders, Walter A. Sargent, Charlie E. Spencer, Alfred H. Tilton, Agnes M. Dolloff, Flora M. Sargent, Della D. Tilton, Alice M. Tilton, Johnnie Favor, M. Etta Dolloff, Sherman C. Rankins. [The last three were absent only from sickness near the close of the term.—*Teacher.*] Number of visits by parents and others, both terms, 15. Wages of teacher per month, including board, first term, \$24.00; second term, \$20.00. Whole amount of school money, \$107.70. Lorenzo Flanders, Prudential Committee.

#### DISTRICT No. 9.

One term of eight weeks, commencing August 10, taught by Miss ADDIE C. WOODMAN. I visited the school twice, and I think for the chance the scholars have for schooling they did remarkably well. If, out of twelve months in the year, they have but two for schooling (and I think they attend no other school), they must forget nearly all they have learned the year before. It is some like the frog jumping out of the well. And the school-house, or whatever you may call it, I should say keep as a relic of bygone ages, but not to use it any more for schooling purposes, as it is wholly unfit for such use. Nearly all the classes showed that they were very thorough in what they had been over. I think Miss Woodman and her scholars deserve much praise for what they accomplished. Whole number of scholars, 7. Whole number studying reading, 7; spelling, 7; penmanship, 4; arithmetic, 5; geography, 4; history, 3. Upon the roll of honor are the names of Thomas E. Abel, Ernest A. Abel, Henry L. Gault, Winfred W. Gilpatric. Number of visits by parents and others, 4. Wages of teacher per

month, including board, \$20.00. Whole amount of school money, \$32.25; contributed by district to prolong the school, \$7.75. Mrs. W. H. Abel, Prudential Committee.

#### DISTRICT No. 10.

One term of five weeks, commencing July 5, was taught by Miss LOTTIE E. HAZELTON, of Ashland. I visited the school twice; the order was good and for so short a school, and the scholars all being small, I think the improvement was all that could be expected. In arithmetic the examination showed that they did not understand it so well as I would like to have had them, but in other studies they did well. I think for the experience that Miss Hazelton has had (this being her second school), she succeeded finely. Whole number of scholars, 6, only two of which belong in the district; the rest coming from other districts. Whole number studying reading, 6; spelling, 6; penmanship, 2; arithmetic, 3; geography, 3; grammar, 1. Upon the roll of honor are the names of Ralph W. Nichols and E. Belle Mitchell. Number of visits by parents and others, 1. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$12.00. Whole amount of school money, \$14.62. Arthur W. Nichols, Prudential Committee.

#### UNION DISTRICT No. 1.

Two terms of school in this district. The first term of nine weeks began August 30, Mr. GEORGE B. COX, of Ashland, teacher. I visited the school twice and I think Mr. Cox kept a good school. He requires order out of school as well as in. I liked his manner in the school-room much. There were 7 scholars, one coming from No. 10. Studying reading, 7; spelling, 7; penmanship, 4; arithmetic, 4; geography, 3; grammar, 1. Upon the roll of honor are E. Belle Mitchell, L. B. Mitchell, Maud M. Plummer, Emma P. Plummer. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$13.80.

The second term of nine weeks began November 29, under the instruction of Miss GRACIE A. ROYCE, of Plymouth. I visited this school but once and that near the close. I should judge that Miss Royce was a good teacher, but there were so few scholars, and *so much* irregular attendance that the advance-

ment was not what it might have been under more favorable circumstances ; there was quite an improvement in reading as it was. There were but 4 scholars, 2 coming from No. 10. Studying reading, 4 ; spelling, 4 ; penmanship, 3 ; arithmetic, 3 ; geography, 2. No names on the roll of honor. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$14.80. Number of visits by parents and others, both terms, 14. Whole amount of school money from Bridgewater, \$43.66 ; money unexpended, \$3.42. B. F. Nutting, Prudential Committee.

In concluding this report I wish to say a few words in regard to school books. This subject should receive the prompt attention of all. In visiting the several schools I have found that some of the books do not correspond as they should ; in one instance I noticed a book published nearly twenty years ago. Now the greater multiplicity of books we have, the more classes we must have. A teacher can explain a problem to a large class as quickly as to one scholar, and each scholar in a large class can receive, say one half hour of the teacher's time, while if each scholar was in a class by himself he could not receive hardly any of the teacher's time. Town Superintendents, that are changed every year or two, know little or nothing of what books are used, nor are they always the best judges in selecting good books. Now it seems to me that this matter should be placed in the hands of the State Superintendent of schools. He could, with the advice of the Governor, select the best textbooks to be had, make arrangements with the publishers, and order the town Superintendents to introduce them to their schools, in each town through the State at the same time. Scholars going from one district, or one town, to another, would find the same class of books in use ; teachers would find it more pleasant if they knew what class of books they were to instruct from, than they do now. These few suggestions should be discussed, and if thought proper to adopt them the matter should be brought before the next Legislature.

In regard to school-houses, some of them need some repairs. For instance, No. 10, with a new window or two and shingling,



would do very well for many years ; if not done the district will soon be without a house. The several Prudential Committees have been fortunate in procuring, in nearly every instance, the services of teachers of known ability and great experience. In hiring new teachers one is as apt to draw a blank as a prize. Good teachers must possess natural qualifications to fit them for the school-room. A person may have the best education and still be wholly unfit to instruct or govern a school.

No. 3 is doing what I think would be well for all the districts to do, viz., give the board and make the school as long as possible. You would never mind a few weeks' board even if you had to carry the teacher. It would be time well spent. You can leave your children no better legacy than a good, thorough business education.

Some scholars in nearly every district have too many absent marks set against their names in the registers ; next year try and let *every* scholar's name be found upon the roll of honor.

Whole number of scholars of the town, not less than five years of age, who have attended school two weeks or more, 82. Number of scholars between the ages of 5 and 15, as reported by the Selectmen, 68 ;—34 boys and 34 girls.

Amount of school money more than last year, \$52.39.

JOHN L. MORRISON, *S. S. Committee.*





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